

LUMPKIN COUNTY WATER AND SEWERAGE AUTHORITY

BOARD MEETING

May 19, 2015

Lumpkin County Administration Building Conference Room

Members in attendance: Murl Jones, Charles Trammell, John Gaston, Rhett Stringer, Gary McCullough, C. L. Grizzle, Vic Dover

Others in attendance: Sean Phipps, Dee Harris, Joy Edelberg

Call to order: Chairman Murl Jones call the meeting to order at 2:01 pm

**Approval of Agenda:** Gary McCullough. Second: John Gaston. Motion carried unanimously.

**April 21, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes:** Motion to approve the minutes: Charles Trammell. Second: John Gaston. Motion carried unanimously.

**Financials:** Director Sean Phipps presented financial reports for April. Note a new document was added to show cash flow including debt service. Motion to accept April financial reports: Gary McCullough. Second: Charles Trammell. Motion carried unanimously.

**GEFA Loan Application** - for project to connect loose ends on Auraria Rd to Welchel/400 or Lumpkin County Parkway/400 and loop for redundancy. Loan application for \$750,000 with \$300,000 principal forgiveness. Debt of \$450,000 and SPLOST or in house match of \$121,000 to complete the project. Motion to approve Chairman Murl Jones to sign documents for loan application: Charles Trammell. Second: John Gaston. Motion carried unanimously.

**Rock Pointe** - Dahlonega City Counsel provided a letter of approval for LCWSA to establish new customers with the expansion at Rock Pointe which is in the city service area. Staff will proceed.

**City of Dahlonega water purchase bill** - \$3800 minimum service fee was added to bill. Contract allowing the charge was expired when the new treatment plant went online. Rates were supposed to be negotiated and a new contract issued. City management stated no new contract was needed that LCWSA was just like any other commercial customer. Much discussion ensued. Motion made by John Gaston to no longer pay minimum service charge that we were not under contract to pay died for lack of second. Chairman Jones established a committee to follow up on issue, himself, Sean and Rhett to be committee. Sean instructed to work with Attorney to draft a letter to the city establishing LCWSA position. Motion to create a letter to present LCWSA position to the City of Dahlonega: Charles Trammell. Second: Vic Dover. Motion carried unanimously.

**BCBSGA 2015 renewal** – slight reduction in premium – motion to approve renewal of existing plans for new year: Charles Trammell. Second: Vic Dover. Motion carried unanimously.

**Working spouse rule** – penalty for employees who carry spouse on LCWSA insurance when insurance is available through spouse's employer. Motion to adopt working spouse rule for future employees: Gary McCullough. Second: Charles Trammell. Motion carried unanimously.

**Meter Reading Equipment and Software** – current system is outdated. Unable to back up data from handheld device and unable to read historic data from newer model meters. Cost to purchase and install upgraded system \$7900. Motion to purchase updated software and equipment as described for \$7900: Gary McCullough. Second: John Gaston. Motion carried unanimously.

**Stonehenge Water System** – permits must be renewed. Expectation was that demand could be met with the 2 wells but testing didn't prove out. Must add 630+ storage capacity to system. Sean recommended installing a hydro-pneumatic tank at a cost of \$31,000. Sean noted well houses are inadequate to install suggested tank. Project would include potentially acquiring additional property and remodeling existing facilities. Sean recommends the project be funded through funds held in the Renewal and Extension account. Motion to approve proceeding with actions necessary to purchase and install hydro-pneumatic tank to meet EPD requirements to renew permits: Gary McCullough. Second: Charles Trammell. Motion carried unanimously. Member John Gaston offered his services free of charge to the Water Authority if survey is needed for land acquisition.

#### **Director's report attached**

**Motion to adjourn:** Gary McCullough. Second: Vic Dover. Meeting adjourned at 3:11 pm.

### **Attached director's report**

#### **Health and Safety Issues:**

Nothing to Report

#### **Repair and Maintenance:**

- **Stonehenge Water System** – LCWSA has completed a series of 24 pumping test on the wells in the Stonehenge Water System. Based on the test results which were unexpectedly low, LCWSA has made a recommendation for improvements to the systems storage capacity to bring this water system up to EPD standards for meeting peak demands.
- **400 Water System** – Townley construction repaired leak on a 2" water main at Canterbury Road afterhours.

- **Sherwood Forest Water System** – LCWSA repaired a leak at the Sherwood Forest well house and replaced some electrical equipment that was damage due to the leak.
- **Copper Ridge Water System** – Townley Construction repaired a leak on a 2” water main on Deer Ridge Trail on a weekend.
- **Shepherds Cove Water System** – LCWSA repaired a leak at the Shepherds Cove pump house
- **Fern Park Water System** – LCWSA performed filter maintenance and repair damaged well covers at both of the well houses in Fern Park.
- **General** – LCWSA is working to test and replace failed bladder tanks and complete general maintenance (paint, repair) at the well houses for each water systems as needed.

**New Water Taps:**

- **Interfaith Ministries** – LCWSA completed a new tap for a 1” water service at 1440 Red Oak Flats Road for the Interfaith Ministries project.
- **Development Authority** – LCWSA will be completing a new tap this week for a 1 ½” water service at for the Lumpkin County Development Authority’s new building at Ethan Allen Drive in the Lumpkin County Industrial park.

**Budgetary Items:**

- **FEMA** – LCWSA is coordinating with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) on a Request for Assistance related to the winter/ice storm event in February. LCWSA Accounting Manager Dee Harris has taken the lead on this coordination that seeks to get reimbursement for employee overtime, use of vehicles and equipment and purchase of materials that were needed as a result of the storm. A preliminary estimate is that LCWSA may be eligible to receive \$ 4,000 - \$ 5,000 from FEMA for costs associated with the storm.